

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GUATEM 01208 251945Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-01 PRS-01  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 /044 W  
-----260623 048359 /14  
R 251846Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4969  
INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 1208

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, GT, PFOR, SHUM (SURVIL, BERNARD ANTHONY)  
SUBJ: ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF US CITIZEN PRIEST

REF: (A) SAN SALVADOR 869 (B) GUATEMALA 1141

1. WITH RESPECT TO ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF FATHER SURVIL (REFTEL A), WE WOULD NOTE FOR THE RECORD THAT IN HIS FOUR CONTACTS WITH CONSULAR OFFICER DURING HIS DETENTION HERE IN GUATEMALA, SURVIL AT NO TIME MENTIONED THAT HE HAD BEEN MISTREATED EITHER IN EL SALVADOR OR IN GUATEMALA. MOREOVER, HE BORE NO VISIBLE SIGNS OF ILLTREATMENT. THIS IS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO BELGIAN PRIEST WHO WAS ALSO EXPELLED INTO GUATEMALA FROM EL SALVADOR, WHO HAD BANDAGE OVER ONE EYE AS RESULT OF IRRITATION CAUSED BY OVERLY TIGHT BLIND-FOLDING WHILE IN EL SALVADOR. BELGIAN PRIEST ALSO SUFFERED OTHER MISTREATMENT SUCH AS BEING TIED TO BED FOR TWENTY FOUR HOURS.

2. WHILE EMBASSY RAISED UNFORTUNATE GOG HANDLING OF SURVIL CASE WITH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER (REFTEL B), TREATMENT HE RECEIVED IN JAIL IN GUATEMALA WAS CERTAINLY NOT HARSH, AND SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS WERE GIVEN IN PRESENCE OF EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICER THAT SURVIL SHOULD BE GIVEN  
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GOOD TREATMENT. MOREOVER, CONSULAR ACCESS WAS FREQUENT AND EASY.  
BOSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, CLERGYMEN  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 25-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977GUATEM01208  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770067-0376  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** GUATEMALA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770210/aaaaaiop.tel  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 54421fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 SAN SALVADOR 869, 77 GUATEMALA 1141  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3230919  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF US CITIZEN PRIEST  
**TAGS:** CASC, PFOR, SHUM, GT, (SURVIL, BERNARD ANTHONY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
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